Recovery of Outstanding dues from International Airlines

598. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to take legal action to recover commulative outstanding dues from 89 leading international airlines;

(b) if so, whether these dues have to be recovered by various Government companies and departments including Air India, Airports Authority of India, the revenue department, etc;

(c) whether Government are also considering to adjust the amount against security deposits of these defaulters, and

(d) if so, the total outstanding dues from these airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Reduction of Employees in AI Flights

599. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India has the highest number of employees per aircraft in the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof in comparison with other international flights; and

(c) what is Government's plans to reduce the number?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details as of 2000 are as under:—

Name of airline	No. of employees	Fleet Size	Employee per aircraft
Air India	16,804	28	588 (As on 30.6.2002)
Aerofloat	15,352	106	145
Air Canada	31,560	244	129

Name of airline	No. of employees	Fleet Size	Employee per aircraft
Air China	11,118	68	164
British Airlines	62,844	263	239
American Airlines	93,000	729	128
Delta Airlines	73,700	596	124
United Airlines	98,400	620	159

Source—Airline Business—September, 2001

(c) Air India management has taken following measures for rationalising man-power in order to reduce staff cost:—

(i) Freeze on external recruitment in non-operational categories; (ii) Several posts of India based officers abroad have been abolished; (iii) Rolling back of retirement age from 60 to 58 years; (iv) Redeployment of employees from non-operational to operational areas; (v) Two voluntary scheme have been notified *viz.* shorter working week scheme and introduction of leave without pay/allowances scheme for a period of two years extendable upto five years.

Losses suffered by Aviation Sector after Terrorists Attack in USA

600. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Consequent upon the September 11, 2001 events in the US, the aviation industry is likely to suffer a loss of $6 million this year;

(b) if so, whether the industry has lost $12 billion last year;

(c) whether the industry is on a recovery path but still not reached a stage of profitability;

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to help the aviation sector to come out of the red;

(e) whether any concrete policy in this regard has been formulated; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The airline industry worldwide